



Department of Toxic Substances Control



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DTSC STATUS REPORT UPDATE

South Richmond Shoreline Sites October 24, 2005

The purpose of this update is to inform the community of additional activities that have occurred since September 28, 2005 and activities that are expected to occur in the next 30 days at the South Richmond Shoreline Sites.

Activities Completed Since September 28, 2005:

- The Responsible Parties for the Zeneca/Former Stauffer Chemical Company Site (Zeneca Site) are surveying, grading and contouring the areas of East Stege Marsh that were previously excavated. Air monitoring is being conducted while these activities occur.
- The University of California (UC) conducted a magnetometer survey on October 18, 2005 at property owned by the City of Richmond Community Redevelopment Agency. A former UC Richmond Field Station employee has alleged that drums were buried in this area in the late 1960s. The survey indicated that metal objects are buried on property; however, the survey instruments are not able to differentiate between drums and other metal objects. A radiation survey of this area was also conducted in September 2005 and no surface radioactive contamination was found. DTSC has met with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to discuss options to further investigate the site.
- DTSC announced the start of the public comment period for the Zeneca Site Draft Removal Action Workplan (draft RAW) and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) document for the marsh sediment removal from three areas within East Stege Marsh. A fact sheet was issued to the Zeneca mailing list announcing the 30-public comment period and a public meeting to discuss the draft RAW, to be held on October 25. The 30-day public comment period runs from October 10 to November 8, 2005, and the public is encouraged to review and provide comments. At the end of the 30-day period, DTSC will respond to all comments received in a Responsiveness Summary. All comments will be considered and the documents may be modified based upon comments received.
- DTSC is currently reviewing the Groundwater Extraction Treatability Study Workplan for the Bio-Rad Site located at 3110 Regatta Boulevard. Prior to implementation of this workplan, DTSC will be providing the community with a fact sheet describing the site and explaining what work will be conducted.
- DTSC provided comments to a well decommissioning report for research wells

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located on the U.C. Richmond Field Station Property. Contra Costa County Health Services Department requested that the wells be closed and that DTSC review the plan.

- DTSC's environmental contractor, Weiss Associates, collected soil gas samples from October 11 -14, 2005 from the Harbor Front Properties. DTSC also discussed the sampling with the business and property owners located in the area.
- DTSC participated in a UC Richmond Field Station site visit along with Dr.
 Robert Raabe (Professor Emeritus, UC Berkeley) and UC staff persons to
 examine the trees located on the property. Based upon Dr. Raabe's
 recommendations, UC personnel have collected leaf samples from magnolia
 trees for analysis, and will be testing the soils around other trees to determine
 acidity and alkalinity levels.

Activities Proposed for the Next 30 Days:

- DTSC will be holding a community meeting on October 25, 2005 to discuss the Draft RAW for the marsh sediment removal from three areas within East Stege Marsh. DTSC will also be responding to comments provided by the community for the Draft Removal Action Workplan (Draft RAW) and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) proposed Negative Declaration and Initial Study for the marsh area of the Zeneca Site. The Draft RAW may be modified based upon the comments received, and then finalized. After DTSC approval is given, the work outlined in the RAW can begin.
- DTSC will be working with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to prepare a plan to investigate the City of Richmond Community Redevelopment Agency property discussed above.
- DTSC will prepare a summary describing DTSC's evaluation of the soil gas sampling conducted around Building 240 at the Zeneca/Former Stauffer Chemical site.
- DTSC will review the Revised Quarterly Monitoring, Well Installation/Repair, and Lot 1/Lot 2 Field Sampling and Analysis Plan. DTSC previously commented on this document in July 2005.
- DTSC and Weiss Associates will be reviewing the soil gas data from the Harbor Front Properties sampling effort. Soil and groundwater sampling of the area may be conducted in November 2005.